

What is claimed is:

1. A developing apparatus for developing an electrostatic image formed on an image carrier, comprising:

a developing container for containing a magnetic developer, the developing container being portioning into a first chamber and a second chamber constituting a circulation path of the developer, the first chamber being disposed on an upper side of the second chamber;

a first developing member, provided with the first chamber, for supplying the developer to the electrostatic image on the image carrier;

a second developing member, provided with the second chamber, for supplying the developer to the electrostatic image on the image carrier; and

a magnetic field generating means for generating magnetic field for transferring the developer between the first developing member and the second developing member on the image carrier side,

a restricting member for restricting entry of the developer in the developing container to a space between the first developing member and the second developing member, the restricting member is disposed in a non-contacting manner to the first developing member and the second developing member.

2. The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the restricting member is provided extending substantially along a circumferential surface of the second developing member.

3. The developing apparatus according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the magnetic field generating means has a pair of magnetic polarities disposed stationarily in the second developing member for forming a resilient

magnetic field, and the restricting member is arranged to protrude in a manner non-contacting but adjacent to the magnetic polarity pair.

4. The developing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first developing member carries the developer in the first chamber and conveys the developer to the image carrier, and wherein the second developing member carries the developer received from the first developing member and conveys the developer to the image carrier.

5. The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the restricting member is provided extending substantially along circumferential surfaces of the first developing member and the second developing member.

6. The developing apparatus according to claim 1 or claim 5, wherein the magnetic field generating means has a pair of magnetic polarities disposed stationarily in the first developing member for forming a resilient magnetic field and a pair of magnetic polarities disposed stationarily in the second developing member for forming a resilient magnetic field, and the restricting member is arranged to protrude in a manner non-contacting but adjacent to the magnetic polarity pairs.

7. The developing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the first developing member carries the developer in the first chamber and conveys the developer to the image carrier, and wherein the second developing member carries the developer received from the first developing member and conveys the developer to the image carrier.

8. The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the restricting member has a portioning portion for portioning the developing container into the first chamber and the second chamber.

9. The developing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the

magnetic developer includes a non-magnetic toner and a magnetic carrier.